



Trees in the Right of Way

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

This flyer does not reflect municipality and home owner association rules and regulations. If you live in a homeowner association or a municipality please consult their regulations.

Question: Can I remove, plant, prune, or maintain a tree(s) in the right of way?

Answer: No, Montgomery County homeowners/residents should not remove, plant, prune or maintain trees in the right of way.

Tree removal, planting, pruning or maintenance is the responsibility of the Montgomery County, Department of Transportation for County owned right of way and the State Of Maryland Highway Administration for State owned right of way. You should contact 311 to request tree removal, planting, pruning or maintenance.

Question: When is a permit required to remove trees from the right of way?

Answer: Before a roadside tree is trimmed or cared for in any way including removal, a Tree Care Permit must be obtained from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Forest Services (301 854-6060). To obtain a permit go to the following link: http://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/programapps/newrtpq.asp

In addition to the above permit, any construction activity in the County right of way will require a Public Right of Way Permit from the Department of Permitting Services. No tree removal is permitted until obtaining a Public Right of Way Permit.